

AGN. NO. _____

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH

AUGUST 9, 2005

RELATED TO ITEM #S-2

The Department of Health Services' recommendations on the future of King/Drew Medical Center lack a back-up plan in the event the hospital and Drew University's Medical School loses additional accreditations.

Some of the Department's recommended changes are to terminate King/Drew's Perinatal Intensive Care Unit and obstetric services. The recommendation to terminate and/or downgrade the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit and downgrade the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit was made by Navigant Consulting in its original report in February 2005, and the recommendation to consolidate and/or close obstetric services were made by the Department in December 2004. However, since then no actions were taken to implement these recommendations.

The fact remains that King/Drew lost its Joint Commission Accreditation Health Care Organizations (JCAHO) accreditation and is no longer able to treat patients from private healthcare plans. There is no guarantee that JCAHO will reinstate King/Drew.

The Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services continues to identify serious problems in nursing, pharmacy, and physicians for not following protocols. The State Licensing inspectors reported that there are major pharmacy errors and drugs being administered late and that critical patient care reviews do not quickly occur.

For two cycles, Drew University's Medical School has failed to pass the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (A.C.G.M.E.) institutional reviews, like the school fails A.C.G.M.E. institutional review in December, all of the graduate education programs will be terminated. However, the Department has no plan on contracting physician services.

On July 19th Navigant's project manager reported to the Board that they are not "far enough or fast enough" in making progress in nursing, pharmacy, and the governance of medical staff quality problems.

With no guarantee that King/Drew's accreditations will not be terminated or reinstated, the Department must prepare a dual track contingency plan with firm timelines to enact reforms and restructure the hospital in the event King/Drew and Drew University's accreditations are terminated which includes holding Bienson hearings as soon as possible.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors direct the Director of Health Services to prepare a dual track contingency plan with firm timelines to enact reforms and restructure King/Drew Medical Center in the event the hospital and Drew University Medical School's accreditations are terminated. This plan should include identified core health care services that will continue at King/Drew and contracting of physician services, including timelines for holding Bienson hearings.

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